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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Food Shortage

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1. The shortage of meat continues even though the slaughterhouses in the larger cities are working to capacity. The slaughterhouse in Szczecin (Stettin) butchers 700 pigs daily, each pig weighing approximately 110 kilograms. The slaughterhouse in Warsaw butchers approximately 2,400 hornless cattle, 800 horned cattle, 250 calves, 50 sheep, 10 horses and 200 other livestock per week. These figures show that the Warsaw population could have enough meat were it not for the export quotas.
2. The State Food Supply Fund (Panstwowy Fundusz Apropowizacyjny) directs the slaughtering of the animals. The fund purchases live or butchered cattle from private breeders if the latter have any remaining after delivering their quotas. The meat is stored in the ice houses, one of which is located on Wolska Street in Warsaw, and is then exported.
3. The manager of the municipal slaughterhouse in Warsaw is Stanislaw Ostaszewski, a Communist Jew who worked as a bricklayer in Lodz before World War II. His deputy is Wojciech Witek, a Communist who was a street cleaner before World War II.
4. Pigs for export are being fattened at Westerplatte, near Gdansk (Danzig), and it is estimated that from April to November 1951, nearly 100,000 hogs were shipped from Westerplatte to East Germany. Geese are being fattened at Zaspa (Saspe), also located near Gdansk, and some 300,000 geese were exported from this area in 1951; nearly half of the geese went to England and West Germany.

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5. More white bread is available and it is of a better quality. Flour and sugar are still very scarce.
6. Although penicillin is being produced in Poland, it is very difficult to obtain. Doctors must account for each gram of penicillin they prescribe for their patients. The free market price for one million units of crystalline penicillin is 100 zl.

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